

Chapter 5 Practice Exercises

Fill in the Blank

Choose the word that best completes the sentence.

1. Xavier thought that throwing some scraps to the bear would _____ it, but instead the bear tore apart our campsite in search of more to eat.
A) elucidate
B) placate
C) impugn
D) denounce
2. Mei _____ her daughter for putting the cat in the washing machine.
A) mediated
B) revoked
C) anthropomorphized
D) denounced
3. David's salary was _____ his limited skills; he was paid nothing.
A) as empirical as
B) as explicit as
C) indifferent to
D) proportionate to
4. After several decades of peace, the little country grew _____ about defense and let its army slowly dwindle.
A) nostalgic
B) objective
C) ominous
D) complacent

5. None of us had enough money to undertake the project alone, so we had to depend on the _____ of our parents.
- A) pervasiveness
 - B) resignation
 - C) philanthropy
 - D) substantiation
6. The court ruled that Ursula's superficial discussions with the Russian ambassador did not _____ treason.
- A) undermine
 - B) impugn
 - C) aver
 - D) amount to

Word Relationships

Decide whether each pair of words below is roughly similar (S) in meaning, roughly opposite (O) in meaning, or unrelated (U) to each other.

Set 1

- | | | |
|------------------|---------------|-------|
| 1. credence | believability | _____ |
| 2. diction | dictum | _____ |
| 3. mercurial | changeable | _____ |
| 4. innocent | culpable | _____ |
| 5. indict | exculpate | _____ |
| 6. malediction | benediction | _____ |
| 7. nominate | renovate | _____ |
| 8. pseudonym | ignominy | _____ |
| 9. anonymous | autonomy | _____ |
| 10. nomenclature | innovation | _____ |

Set 2

1. novice	expert	_____
2. candor	equivocation	_____
3. nova	dignity	_____
4. indignant	disdainful	_____
5. veracity	verity	_____
6. eloquent	loquacious	_____
7. interlocutor	culprit	_____
8. ignorant	erudite	_____
9. amenable	amendable	_____
10. amity	antipathy	_____

Set 3

1. renovate	revive	_____
2. dignity	esteem	_____
3. indignation	complacency	_____
4. verdict	truth	_____
5. concurrent	anachronistic	_____
6. verisimilitude	falsehood	_____
7. aver	deny	_____
8. anachronism	verity	_____
9. eloquent	well-spoken	_____
10. elocution	speech	_____

Set 4

1. anomaly	irregularity	_____
2. substandard	superior	_____
3. loquacious	quiet	_____
4. apprehensive	fearless	_____
5. brevity	candor	_____
6. conspicuous	transferred	_____
7. amorphous	cloudy	_____
8. deference	disrespect	_____
9. denounce	condemn	_____
10. lethargic	despondent	_____

Odd Man Out

Each row below consists of four words, three of which are related in meaning. Circle or underline the word that does not fit.

Set 1

- | | | | |
|----------------|-------------|-----------|--------------|
| 1. explicit | implicit | obvious | clear |
| 2. indifferent | deferential | apathetic | uncaring |
| 3. apt | inept | clumsy | incompetent |
| 4. tempo | pace | rhythm | chronicle |
| 5. nominal | amiable | amenable | friendly |
| 6. lament | mourn | grieve | equate |
| 7. malleable | bendable | nostalgic | polymorphous |
| 8. mediate | negotiate | meditate | placate |
| 9. subjective | objective | biased | prejudiced |
| 10. anonymous | hidden | nominated | pseudonym |

Set 2

- | | | | |
|-------------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------|
| 1. culpable | guilty | innocent | blame-worthy |
| 2. ambiguous | equivocal | vague | clear |
| 3. apprehensive | brave | fearful | nervous |
| 4. ambitious | amorous | amiable | amicable |
| 5. luminous | luminescent | lucid | lackluster |
| 6. intractable | intransigent | stubborn | placid |
| 7. complacent | pugnacious | aggressive | pugilistic |
| 8. extemporaneous | modern | contemporary | contemporaneous |
| 9. chronic | acute | sharp | shrewd |
| 10. undermine | underscore | highlight | emphasize |